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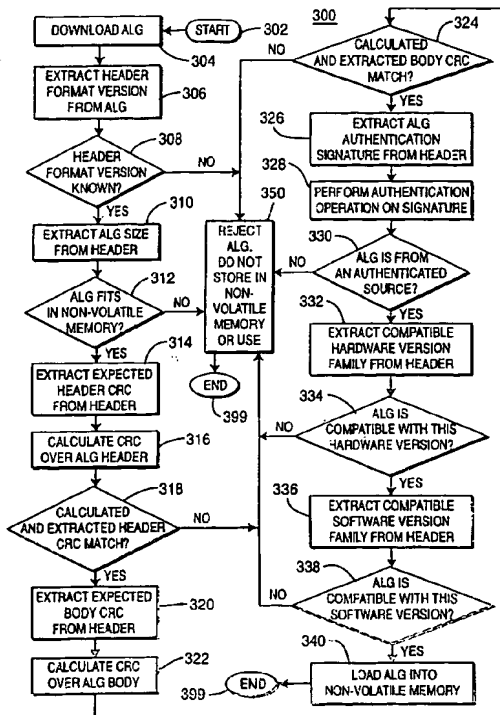
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(54) Title: APPLICATION LEVEL GATEWAY AND FIREWALL RULE SET DOWNLOAD VALIDATION



(57) Abstract: Method (300) and apparatus (100) for
validating application level gateway (ALG) files or firewall
rulesets (200). The method and apparatus include receiving
(304), at a bi-directional communications device (130), an
application level gateway (ALG) file (200), and comparing
(308, 310, 314, 320, 326, 332, 336) at least one compatibility
parameter of said ALG file with features of said bi-directional
communications device. In an instance where all of the
compatibility parameters compare favorably, the ALG file is
stored (340) at the bi-directional communications device.

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